

FEEBLE-MINDED PRESENT GREAT SOCIAL PROBLEM

Experts at National Charities
Conference Discuss
Question.

Indianapolis, May 15.—Two of the principal papers read today at the National Conference of Charities and Correction were "Danger of Classifying as Merely Backward Children who are Feeble-Minded," by Dr. Geo. A. Bliss, Superintendent of the Indiana School for Feeble-Minded Youth, and "The Feeble-Minded and the Public Interest in the Feeble-Minded," by E. R. Johnstone, superintendent of a training school at Vineland, N. J.

Dr. Bliss described stupid children, who have, with charitable good will, been so often supposed to be able to take care of themselves but who are really likely to commit grave crimes. The doctor called such children "misfits" and "clogs in the machinery of social adjustment" and said that the sooner they were discovered and segregated in institutions for the feeble-minded the better.

Speaking of some of the almost unbelievable crimes they commit, Dr. Bliss said:

"In an experience with more than 1,000 of this particular grade of the feeble-minded I have never heard one of them blame himself for what he had done. The most unbelievable debauchery and vice that some of them are capable of, renders them most dangerous members of any community in which they are permitted to grow up, to live, and to reproduce their kind.

These children are often the butt of ridicule of the class, laughed at and teased by the other children who like to see them get mad. They are frequently precocious sexually, and may and often do come from the worst savagery. Under such conditions it is to be expected that they have had and vicious habits and practices, which they are only too ready to teach other children."

Mr. Johnstone pointed out the necessity of knowing what feeble-mindedness really means, what causes it, how far it is inheritable, just what part alcoholism, tuberculosis, etc., play in it, what effect it has on the body, what part the different grades or types of the feeble-minded may safely have in community life.

"We need methods," he said, "by which the feeble-minded may be easily recognized. We need places, many of them—where children may be studied and examined so that those who are feeble-minded may be so declared and steps be taken for their protection. Care and control who are questionable, but are normal, may be recognized at once.

"The almshouses and orphanages, the reformatory and penal institutions, the villages for epileptics and hospitals for the insane should be surveyed and the presence of the feeble-minded called to the attention of the citizens. The survey work should take into account the social, physical, and environmental conditions and search for the cause if prevalent diseases.

LOADING ON DOCK, TELLS POLICE HE'S WAITING FOR FISH

A second clean-up of the Water street waterfront by Policemen Barton and Wheeler, staged Saturday afternoon following announcement that work would be obtained for all who desired it, resulted in a man being hauled before Judge F. A. Bartlett today in the city court. When arrested several of the prisoners declared they were union men and demanded that they be paid at the rate of \$3 per day. They said they were hard working men. When questioned one, charged with being a vagrant, asserted that he wanted to sleep on the dock Sunday morning that he might be near the river when the fish were running. Another could not account for his working profligates when a shoe and sock were found on him, absent from his feet. Sentences ranging from 15 to 30 days in the county jail were imposed.

Pugnacious Earwig.

Observation has disclosed that earwigs are quarrelsome creatures and always ready to use their pincered tails against each other upon the slightest provocation. When any light suddenly falls upon them congregated at the sugar some are more scared than others and scuttle past them, when each earwig which they nearly touch in flight will savagely swing back its tail and nip the air with fury. Sometimes the blow falls upon a neighbor, who instantly retaliates, and half a dozen furious nips are rapidly interchanged. But fighting weight quickly settles the quarrel, the smaller earwig scuttling off and the larger pursuing him for half an inch, running blindly backward and reaching savagely to right and left with his nippers. Yet these same earwigs, so vindictive in meals, will be crammed, all sizes to gether, into any hole or crack by day, and they must be very gentle with each other then, for among them you may find some that have just cast their skins, snow white, soft and helpless.

The Fastest Swimmers.

Few people have any idea of the rapid pace attained by some fish. The dolphin and porpoise are perhaps the swiftest of all. The latter fish has been seen to dart round and round a steamer proceeding at between seven and eighteen miles an hour. Probably a bonito (a fish of the mackerel family) at its best could move for some distance at forty miles an hour. Salmon, too, and trout swim very fast, particularly when accomplishing their annual spawning migration upstream. Herrings in shoals move at a steady ten or twelve miles, but mackerel much faster. Whales, though not fish, can swim at a great speed. When excited they will dash along at as much as fifteen miles an hour, but ordinarily four or five miles an hour is their speed. Seals, again, are much more speedy, and certain eastern water snakes glide along at terrific velocities.

ADVERTISE IN THE FARMER.

LEGLESS SOCIETY OFFICERS HAULED TO SUPREME COURT

Tricked Into Taking Officer-
ships, Say Witmark and
Douglas.

FOUNDER, EX-DRIVER:
ACCOUNTING IS ASKED

Bernhardt's Name Used With-
out Authority by Organiza-
tion to Aid Cripples.

Charles Noel Douglas, an author, and Julius P. Witmark, a music publisher, have resigned as president and vice president, respectively, of the Cripples' Welfare society, saying that they were tricked into accepting officerships in the organization. Also they have taken the strife that seems to have rent the society into the New York supreme court.

Douglas and Witmark obtained from Justice Bijur yesterday an order directing George Washington Ryder, secretary-treasurer and general manager, and Alvin S. Ryder, executive member, to show cause why they should not file an accounting of the property and liabilities of the society, of which Ryder was the founder. The organization's purpose is to buy crutches and artificial limbs and otherwise aid cripples.

It is also intimated on information and belief that the name of Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, whose name appears as a vice president, was used without her consent.

Last summer letterheads, containing the signature of G. W. Ryder, were sent out, bearing the ostensible endorsement of the purposes of the society by William Dean Howells, Mrs. Frank K. Sturges, General Theodore A. Bingham, the Rev. W. Montague Geer and Miss Emily F. Fordyce. Objection was made to the use of these names in an article in the New York Tribune, after which the use of the prominent names was abandoned.

Mr. Douglas called these circumstances to the attention of the court in his petition. He further stated that he had made unsuccessful efforts to have G. W. Ryder bring the books of the society to his home at 1299 Park avenue, Brooklyn. He also submitted a letter from Dr. William Sheldon Coates, also a former president, which read: "After I was elected president to succeed Judge Millard, I made many futile attempts to become acquainted with details concerning the handling of funds. Mr. Ryder, without consulting me, published a newspaper account to the effect that you had been elected president and several others as directors, including myself as vice presidents. I never gave him permission to use my name after my resignation as president."

Ryder had been driver of a milk wagon and after he lost a leg became a salesman for a manufacturer of artificial limbs. It is alleged that last fall an winter several notes were made in the name of the society, some to Austin S. Ryder, who is the father of G. W. Ryder, and one each to two brothers. Last March Austin S. Ryder and the society for \$1,926 on these notes. Mr. Douglas and Mr. Witmark also told about a benefit concert given at the Hotel Biltmore, at which Mme. Frances Alda, David Blupham and Albert Spalding appeared.

The two former officers of the Cripples' Welfare society said that reports placed the receipts from the concert at \$547, of which \$188 went for "miscellaneous debts," and \$358 to a "Mr. Smith," who it was said was Randolph Wilford Smith, who had induced Mr. Douglas and Mr. Witmark to become officers.

Some 50 graduates of the Fannie A. Smith Froebel Training school and the members of the Senior and Junior classes of the school attended the annual luncheon of the Alumnae Association on Saturday afternoon, at which Ellis Parker Butler, the well known author, gave delightful readings from his own writings. Apple blossoms were used to decorate the school rooms where the buffet luncheon was served. The officers of the organization, biennially chosen, have another year to serve. They are Miss Susie Andrews, president; Miss Ada Woodruff, first vice president; Mrs. Harriet Barnes of Meriden, second vice president; Miss Florence Hawley, secretary, and Miss Louise Hoyt, treasurer.

FIRE IN NEW BRUNSWICK.

Monclon, N. B., May 15.—The business district was the scene of a fire which caused a loss of \$1,250,000. Four wooden warehouses of Sumner & Company, hardware dealers, and three buildings, occupied by the Reed Company, wholesale grocers, were destroyed.

O-Kop-O-Nee, 101, Father of Indian Day



O-KOP-O-NEE, 101 YEARS OLD

O-Kop-O-Nee, centenarian of the Blackfoot tribe, feels that the fates are kind to him, inasmuch as May 13, designated as National Indian day, falls upon his birthday. O-Kop-O-Nee, by the way, probably is the only living Indian who knows the exact day of his birth. Most Indians figure they are "about so old," figuring so many "moons." But O-Kop-O-Nee came into this world the day his father, a noted chief, passed to the happy hunting grounds. A priest, who lived among the Blackfoot tribe, chiseled a headstone for the chief's grave, and on it he put the date, May 13, 1815; hence on May 13, national Indian day, O-Kop-O-Nee celebrated his one hundred and first birthday. It is a coincidence that the idea of establishing a national Indian day for all tribes of red men to celebrate simultaneously throughout the country was first advocated twenty years ago by O-Kop-O-Nee.

MANY AT OPENING OF TWO WEEKS' MISSION

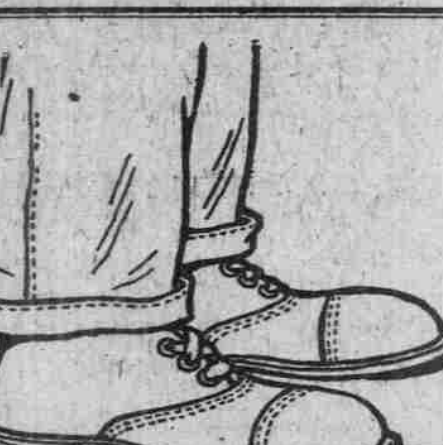
Large congregations attended the opening services, yesterday, of the two weeks' mission at the Holy Rosary Italian R. C. church, which is being conducted by Rev. Robert Blascotti of New York. This week will be for the women, and the last week for the men.

The Forty Hours' devotion which opened yesterday at St. Patrick's R. C. church was largely attended. Worshipers thronged the church yesterday afternoon and last evening. The devotion will come to a close Tuesday morning with a high mass.

VOTE FOR SEVEN M. E. BISHOPS

Cold Springs, N. Y., May 15.—A report submitted on Episcopacy to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church today prepared the way for the immediate balloting for Bishops of the Church. The report recommended that seven Bishops be chosen. This is an increase of two over the present numbers.

The War Department bought 112 3,000 pound motor trucks to reinforce Gen. Pershing's truck train in Mexico.



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Low Price, Hard-Service Footwear for Workers

The comfortable, hard-wear, low-priced shoe for factory workers, mechanics, structural workers, roofers, masons, carpenters, teamsters, motormen, postmen, farmers.

Knu-Shus have set a new high standard in quality at a low price.

They are a remarkable revolution in heavy-service footwear—will outlast the leather shoes you are wearing—and cost far less.

They are far more comfortable—you can be on your feet all day without the discomfort of heavy, leather shoes.

Their soles are made of a composition having rubber as the principal part. They have all the flexibility of rubber with far greater toughness than leather.

The uppers are made of a new process duck, as strong as the fabric in automobile tires, and are far more easy and comfortable than leather uppers can possibly be.

Made also in Youths' and Boys' sizes.

Go to your Shoe Dealer today—Try on a Pair of "KNU-SHUS"

These dealers in Bridgeport now have "KNU-SHUS."

THE CARTWRIGHT SHOE CO., 952 Main Street
E. J. KINGSTON, 964 East Main Street,
BERNSTEIN & BROWN, 1558 Main Street,
PETER GERBERT, 1620 Main Street,
JOHN FEDOR, 1048 East Main Street,
H. SHINE, 1275 Stratford Avenue.

DAVID GREENBAUM, 121 Congress Street,
L. LANDESMAN, 1780 Stratford Avenue,
CHARLES MELTZ, 272 Spruce Street,
L. SILVERSTONE, 978 East Main Street,
SCHNEIDER & JACOBSON, 1150 Stratford Avenue.



SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

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The Pathfinder Girls will hold the first public organization of their work on Thursday, May 25, at the Casino. A number of folk dances are being prepared for the event. The Pathfinder Girls were organized last fall to take the place of the Camp Fire Girls which had hitherto been very strong here. The symbol of the organization is an arrow signifying the straight and true course. Several hundred girls between 12 and 17 compose its membership.

Announcement has been made of the engagement of Miss Jane Roessler, daughter of Col. and Mrs. S. W. Roessler, to Dr. Joseph P. Oviatt, son of Judge and Mrs. Robert DeForest of 938 State street has been announced. Miss Felty is a teacher in the New Haven High school and Mr. DeForest, who is an alumnus of the local High school and Yale, teaches in Sheffield Scientific school.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Mamliton and daughter, Miss Bethesda Hamilton will be the guests of Stuart Hamilton, at Commencement work at Annapolis May 26 to June 2, when Mr. Hamilton will be graduated. Mr. Hamilton is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton.

Cards have been issued for the New York recital of Mrs. Susan Hawley Davis, vocal pupils which will be held in the Myrtle room of the Waldorf-Astoria, on Friday evening, May 19, at 8:30 o'clock. A number of Bridgeport pupils will have part in the program.

While entertaining the members of the Industrial club, Thursday evening, Miss Alice Labrecque of 212 Denver avenue, who is to be married, in June, to Wilfred Poissant of Stratford, was pleasantly surprised by the sudden arrival of a number of girl friends who "showered" her with valuable miscellaneous gifts.

A very pleasant evening was spent in singing and in playing games. Piano and vocal selections were rendered by the Misses Paradis, Garand and Thibault.

Luncheon was served and the guests departed wishing the bride-to-be the best of fortune. The members of the Sewing club are the Misses Marguerite and Edith Burby, Rosamond Poissant, Bernadette and Cecile Proulx, Stella, Agnes and Josephine Thibault, Alice and Laura Labrecque. The other guests were the Misses Sylvia Asselin, Mary, Ida and Lillian Belien, May Boudreau, Alfreda Dubois, May Evans, Laurette Guerin, Lillian Garand, Gertrude Paradis, Edith Lacourciere, Bertha Lapalme, Sylvia Labrecque, May and Blanche Sawyer, Edith Thibault, and Rosanna Labrecque, Mrs. Gerstenmaler, Mrs. J. Poissant and Mrs. P. Labrecque.

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Uneeda Biscuits are the most
nourishing of Soda crackers. Use
them at meals for their food value.
Eat them between meals because
they are ever crisp and
good. At all
grocers.

5¢ NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

Our Query and Reply Department

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When and where was the first iron-clad warship built? When and where was the first submarine actually used in warfare and was a United States warship blown up by such a boat at Charleston during the civil war?

Ironclad is the name given to a naval vessel wholly or partly cased with iron plates. It was given before the days of modern steel battleships. The experience of the British and French fleet before Sevastopol during the Crimean war demonstrated the need of armor for battleships. The French at once began to build five armor plated vessels, and the British followed soon after. In 1859 a belt of armor was fitted to a wooden vessel renamed La Gloire, and she was the first armor-clad warship. In June, 1859, the British government began the construction of the armor plated all iron frigate Warrior. She was the first iron warship and was completed in 1861. The Nemesis, an iron vessel, not a battleship, had been engaged in 1842 in the Chinese war.

Entertainment and Concert to Be Given By Brotherhood

On Monday evening, May 22nd, the Brotherhood of Memorial Baptist church, Maplewood and Howard Avenues, will give a concert and entertainment at 8 o'clock. The program that has been arranged will be a treat to all who attend. Tickets will be sold at 10 cents. The proceeds of the entertainment will be used for the benefit of the church.

FORM BRANCH OF "FRIENDS OF FREEDOM"

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CONFEDERATE VETERANS GATHER FOR REUNION

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